

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 126485

71

ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 R

66607

DRAFTED BY: AF/N: GLANE

APPROVED BY: AF/N: GLANE

----- 077975

R 281829 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 126485

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XI

SUBJECT: US- FRENCH CONSULTATIONS ON NORTH AFRICA

FOLLOWING SENT ALGIERS, PARIS, RABAT, ROME, TRIPOLI, TUNIS FROM

SECSTATE ON JUNE 27, RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 126485

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XI

SUBJECT: US- FRENCH CONSULTATIONS ON NORTH AFRICA

1. US- FRENCH CONSULTATIONS ON NORTH AFRICA TOOK PLACE IN DEPT JUNE 25. DEPT GROUP LED BY ASST SECY NEWSOM, FRENCH BY DE COMMINES, DIRECTOR FOR MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA, FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY. FOLLOWING IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF DE COMMINES COMMENTS ON MAGHREB COUNTRIES.

2. THE MAGHREB - ALL FOUR COUNTRIES ARE JEALOUS OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE, BUT EACH HAS ITS OWN STYLE. SPANISH SAHARA PROBLEM HAS CREATED SOME FRICTION AMONG MAGHREB STATES. PARTLY AS A RESULT OF THIS, THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE PROGRESS TOWARDS MAGHREB UNITY. FRANCE IS CONTINUING ITS POLICY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 126485

OF COOPERATION WITH ALL MAGHREB COUNTRIES; HAS 18,000
" COOPERANTS" IN MOROCCO, ALGERIA AND TUNISIA AND IMPORTANT
COMMERCIAL INTERESTS IN LIBYA.

- ; -

3. MOROCCO - KING HASSAN IS RELATIVELY STRONG, SINCE HIS
POWER IS BASED ON OLD, ESTABLISHED STRUCTURES THAT ARE SLOW
TO CHANGE, AND MOROCCANS LARGELY IGNORE OPPOSITION LEADERS.
FRENCH FM JOBERT MADE EARLY VISIT TO RABAT PARTLY FOR
SENTIMENTAL REASONS (HE WAS BORN IN MOROCCO), PARTLY TO
DEAL QUICKLY WITH MOROCCANIZATION PROBLEMS, AND PARTLY TO
REASSURE KING THAT CRITICISM OF HIM IN FRENCH PRESS DID NOT
REPRESENT GOF VIEW. KING HASSAN DOES NOT TRUST ALGERIA,
AND WILL NOT RATIFY BORDER ACCORD UNTIL GOA INTENTIONS RE
SPANISH SAHARA ARE CLEARER.

4. TUNISIA - FRENCH AID TO TUNISIA CONSISTS OF ABOUT DOLS
2 MILLION IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE (ALL GRANTS) AND
ABOUT DOLS 35 MILLION IN ECONOMIC AID (ALL CREDITS).
CULTURAL RELATIONS ARE EXCELLENT. GOF IS ASSISTING GOT
EDUCATIONAL EFFORT WHICH TAKES 40 PER CENT OF GOT BUDGET.
DE COMMINES DESCRIBED MASMOUDI AS " DEBORDANT" BUT SPECU-
LATED THAT BOURGUIBA WAS NOT LIKELY TO DISMISS HIM IN VIEW
BOURGUIBA'S RENEWED INTEREST IN MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM.

5. ALGERIA - ALGERIA IS MOST DYNAMIC MAGHREB COUNTRY BOTH
ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICALLY. IT HAS AMBITION TO PLAY A
LEADING ROLE IN MAGHREB, IN WEST AFRICA AND ON WORLD
POLITICAL SCENE, AND ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO NON-
ALIGNED CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ALGIERS IN SEPTEMBER.
GOF WANTS GOOD RELATIONS WITH GOA AND HOPES THAT BOUTEFLIKA
VISIT TO PARIS IN MID- JULY WILL MARK THE BEGINNING OF A
NEW ERA OF COOPERATION; GOA IS OPPOSED TO LIBYAN- EGYPTIAN
MERGER BUT HAS LITTLE TO OFFER QADHAFI SINCE ALGIERS CANNOT
MATCH CAIRO AS A PLATFORM TO THE ARAB WORLD.

6. LIBYA - QADHAFI MAY BELIEVE THAT CULTURAL REVOLUTION
WILL HELP HIS IMAGE AS A LEADER THROUGHOUT THE ARAB WORLD.
ON PASSPORTS, DE COMMINES SAID GOF RUBBER STAMP PROCEDURE
WILL BE USED ONLY IN SPECIAL CASES. GOF WILL NOT TRANS-
LATE PASSPORT INFO INTO ARABIC NOR WILL ITS STAMP HAVE
ANY OFFICIAL " CACHET." SINCE STAMP NOT YET READY, NO TEST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 126485

CASES HAVE ARISEN. FRENCH SEE " CULTURAL REVOLUTION" AS
IMPORTANT POLITICAL GAMBIT WHICH QADHAFI MAY INTEND USE TO
DEVELOP POPULAR BASE IN EGYPT AFTER UNION.

7. SUDAN - IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION OF TRIAL OF TERRORISTS
WHO ASSASSINATED AMB NOEL AND DCM MOORE, DE COMMINES
SPECULATED THAT IF THEY WERE CONVICTED, PALESTINIANS MIGHT

TRY ANOTHER HIJACKING TO LIBERATE THEM. DE COMMINES ASKED
IF USG HAD ANY EVIDENCE THAT EGYPTIANS ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED
IN EFFORTS TO OVERTHROW NIMERI; NEWSOM REPLIED NO, BUT
EGYPTIANS MIGHT INTERVENE IF NIMERI APPEARED TO BE LOSING
CONTROL.

8. FULLER REPORT OF CONVERSATIONS FOLLOWS BY MEMCON. ROGERS
UNQUOTE ROGERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE126485
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/ N: GLANE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730632/aaaajrsh.tel
Line Count: 128
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22-Oct-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980303
Subject: US- FRENCH CONSULATIONS ON NORTH AFRICA FOLLOWING SENT ALGIERS, PARIS, RABAT, ROME, TRIPOLI, TUNIS FROM SECSTATE ON JUNE 27, RPTD TO YOU
TAGS: PFOR, XI
To: KHARTOUM
NOUAKCHOTT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005